

As a member on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I understand the importance of acknowledging the bravery and valor of the young men and women who fought in defense of our country. Men like Robert Jack, and members of VFW Post 1322, set their personal lives aside to fight for our country. This post recognizes their service, sacrifice and courage.

Members are dedicated to improving the community and the lives of its members; offering scholarships to students, teaching flag etiquette to classes, providing local transportation for veterans and hosting community events.

As the Robert Jack VFW Post 1322 proudly celebrates its 90th anniversary, the building is also celebrating the 65th anniversary of its groundbreaking. In recent years, the building was in desperate need of maintenance. Members banded together and worked with local organizations and businesses to provide funds for extensive repairs. This is a true testament to the importance of Post 1322 in the community.

I congratulate VFW Post 1322 on its 90th anniversary. I wish members the best of luck and many more years of camaraderie, service and investment in the community.●

REMEMBERING JAMES KOLLER

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I wish to remember Mr. James Koller, a devoted father, husband and Pennsylvania leader. Jim passed away on February 3, 2015, after a 6-year battle with ALS.

Jim's life was defined by his many passions. A successful lawyer and businessman, he was also deeply engaged with his community. A graduate of Marquette University and the Dickinson School of Law, he practiced real estate law in Philadelphia before co-founding Vesterra Corporation, a commercial real estate development company through which Jim built many strong community relationships. Alongside his professional success, Jim maintained an active role in his church and enjoyed an active lifestyle.

Jim's diagnosis with ALS 6 years ago did not slow him down; rather, it pushed him to do even more to combat the disease. Along with his family and friends, he started Team Koller, a fundraising group that participated in local ALS awareness events and raised tens of thousands of dollars for research and treatment. Even at the most difficult times, Jim stayed focused on solutions, seeking answers and help for those afflicted by ALS.

Although we mourn Jim's passing, his selfless and passionate efforts give me hope that we may soon find a cure for this menacing disease. May we continue to live and fight as James Koller did, with courage and fortitude. My thoughts and prayers are with Jim's wife Marianne, his sons, James and Kevin, and the rest of his family in this difficult time.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO CUBA AND OF THE EMERGENCY AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE ANCHORAGE AND MOVEMENT OF VESSELS, AS AMENDED—PM 7

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the national emergency declared on March 1, 1996, with respect to the Government of Cuba's destruction of two unarmed U.S.-registered civilian aircraft in international airspace north of Cuba on February 24, 1996, as amended and expanded on February 26, 2004, is to continue in effect beyond March 1, 2015.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 25, 2015.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:23 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 212. An act to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

H.R. 734. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to consolidate the reporting obligations of the Federal Communications Commission in order to improve congressional oversight and reduce reporting burdens.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 734. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to consolidate the reporting obligations of the Federal Communications Commission in order to improve congressional oversight and reduce reporting burdens; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-675. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OSS-2015-0171); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-676. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OSS-2015-0173); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-677. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) program for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-678. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2015-0011 - 2015-0017); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-679. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Domestic Source Restrictions on Certain Naval Vessel Components" ((RIN0750-AI36) (DFARS Case 2014-D022)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 23, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-680. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Deletion of Obsolete Text Relating to Acquisition of Commercial Items" ((RIN0750-AI50) (DFARS Case 2014-D002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 23, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-681. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Raymond P. Palumbo, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-682. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Libya declared in Executive Order

13566; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-683. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pollock in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands" (RIN0648-XD728) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-684. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations. (Longview, Texas)" (MB Docket No. 14-245) (DA 15-150) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 13, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-685. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 12, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-686. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the progress made in licensing and constructing the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-687. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports entitled "Report to the Congress: 2014 Compact Analysis" and "Impact of the Compacts of Free Association on Guam: Fiscal Year 2004 through Fiscal Year 2013"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-688. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the North Slope Science Initiative; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-689. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Interior, transmitting the report of proposed legislation entitled "Bureau of Land Management Foundation Act"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-690. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report to Congress on the Use of Mandatory Recall Authority Submitted Pursuant to Section 206 of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, Public Law 111-353"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-691. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Implementation of Section 3507 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010: Final Report"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-692. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Performance Report of the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Combination Products for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-693. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Office of the Sec-

retary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Children and Families (Family Support), Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 23, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-694. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2013 Report to Congress: Older Americans Act"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-695. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Generic Issues Program" (Management Directive 6.4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-696. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Documentation Related to Goods Imported from U.S. Insular Possessions" (RIN1515-AD97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 12, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-697. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Administration, Cost and Impact of the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) Program for Medicare Beneficiaries for Fiscal Year 2011"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-698. A communication from the Director, Mississippi River Commission, Department of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Annual Report for calendar year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-699. A communication from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Impact of Recruitment Strategy on Fair and Open Competition for Federal Jobs"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-700. A communication from the Director of Public Affairs, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Service's fiscal year 2014 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation (No FEAR) Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-701. A communication from the Director, Office of Management, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's 2012 list of Government activities determined to be inherently governmental and those to be not inherently governmental in nature; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-702. A communication from the Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of three recommendations adopted by the Administrative Conference of the United States at its 61st Plenary Session; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-703. A communication from the Executive Director, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Commission's commercial and inherently governmental activi-

ties for 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-704. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The District of Columbia Board of Elections Election Day Preparation and Administration Can Be Improved"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-705. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "ANC 8E Did Not Properly Support all Reported Expenditures"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-706. A communication from the Acting Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Automobile or Other Conveyance and Adaptive Equipment Certificate of Eligibility for Veterans or Members of the Armed Forces with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis" (RIN2900-AP26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 23, 2015; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-707. A communication from the Acting Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program" (RIN2900-AO50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 23, 2015; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-5. A resolution adopted by the City Council of Clarksville, Tennessee expressing support for the maintenance of current troop levels at Fort Campbell and urging Congress to oppose any reductions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-6. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota, expressing strong support for the Executive Order issued on November 20, 2014, by the President of the United States, on the issue of immigration and immediate protections for long-term, law-abiding residents who are parents of United States citizens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. NELSON, Mr. COATS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. CRUZ, and Ms. AYOTTE):

S. 555. A bill to require the Secretary of State to offer rewards for information on the kidnapping and murder of James Foley, Peter Kassig, Steven Sotloff, Kayla Mueller, or any other United States citizen by a foreign terrorist organization; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 556. A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.